

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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State Housing Board to Meet in Great Falls September 27

(HELENA)---The Montana Board of Housing (MBOH), Department of Commerce, will meet in Great Falls on Wednesday, September 27. The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. and will be held at the Best Western Heritage Inn. Community leaders and members of the public interested in programs offered by the MBOH will have a chance to talk with board members about housing issues at the beginning of the meeting.

“We are making progress in our joint effort to make sure all Montanans have access to suitable housing, and this is in no small part due to the good ideas that are coming from the local level,” Governor Brian Schweitzer said.

“The input of local leaders and citizens has been critical to the development of several new programs at MBOH,” said Chairman Bob Thomas. “I look forward to meeting members of the Great Falls community.”

To date, the MBOH has provided the following home loans for area counties: **Cascade County:** 6,376 loans for \$405,069,607; **Choteau County:** 71 loans for \$3,206,116; **Glacier County:** 184 loans for \$8,405,573; **Pondera County:** 150 loans for \$6,161,215; **Teton County:** 125 loans for \$6,408,381; and **Toole County:** 132 loans for \$5,399,725. **In total, 7,038 loans have been financed by the MBOH for a total of \$434,650,617 for these counties.**

The Montana Board of Housing is administratively attached to the Montana Department of Commerce. The MBOH serves the housing needs of Montana’s low- and moderate-income population by providing financing for the development or rehabilitation of the state’s affordable housing stock, as well as low-interest loans for first-time homebuyers through the Homeownership Program. Since 1977, the MBOH has served 40,000 Montana families by financing nearly \$2.5 billion for affordable homeownership and multi-family housing units.

The MBOH will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in the public meeting. A person in need of accommodation should contact Diana Hall at (406) 841-2840 no later than September 25, 2006.

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